



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**

DIVISION OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

COMPLIANCE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT - 113

EFFECTIVE DATE - July 29, 1996
(REVISION DATE - July 19, 1999)

RE: REQUIREMENTS FOR SPILL AND OVERFILL PREVENTION

The purpose of this guidance document is to assist the regulated community in understanding the requirements for UST system spill and overfill prevention. *Rule 1200-1-15-.03(1)* states in part that owners and/or operators must ensure that releases due to spilling or overfilling do not occur. The owner and/or operator must ensure that the volume available in the tank is greater than the volume of petroleum to be transferred to the tank before the transfer is made and that the transfer operation is monitored constantly to prevent overfilling and spilling.

UST systems installed prior to December 22, 1988, must be upgraded by December 22, 1998, in accordance with *Rule 1200-1-15-.02(d)*. UST systems installed after December 22, 1988 must have spill and overfill prevention in accordance with *Rule 1200-1-15-.01(c)*.

These requirements do not apply to UST systems that are filled by transfers of 25 gallons or less at one time.

Spill Prevention

Spill prevention equipment shall consist of one of the following:

1. All spill prevention equipment must prevent releases of petroleum to the environment when the transfer hose is detached from the fill pipe after fuel deliveries. For example, a spill catchment basin.
2. An alternative method of spill prevention is used that is determined by the Division to be no less protective of human health and the environment.

Overfill Prevention

Overfill prevention equipment shall consist of one of the following:

1. Equipment that will automatically shut off flow into the tank when the tank is no more than 95 percent full.

2. Equipment that will alert the transfer operator when the tank is no more than 90 percent full by restricting the flow into the tank.
3. Equipment that will alert the transfer operator when the tank is no more than 90 percent full by triggering a high-level alarm.
4. Equipment that will restrict flow 30 minutes prior to overfilling, alert the operator with a high level alarm one minute before overfilling, or automatically shut off flow into the tanks so that none of the fittings located on top of the tank are exposed to product due to overfilling.
5. An alternative method of overfill prevention is used that is determined by the Division to be no less protective of human health and the environment.

Note: High level alarms must be positioned so the transfer operator can see and/or hear the alarm. Additionally, the alarm must be installed, calibrated, operated, and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, including routine maintenance for operability.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Rule 1200-1-15-.05(4)(a) states that owners and/or operators of UST systems must contain and immediately clean up a spill or overfill and report to the Division within 72 hours and begin corrective action if a spill or overfill of petroleum results in a release to the environment that exceeds 25 gallons or that causes a sheen on nearby surface water.

Rule 1200-1-15-.05(4)(b) states that owners and/or operators of UST systems must contain and immediately clean up a spill or overfill of petroleum that is less than 25 gallons. If cleanup cannot be accomplished within 72 hours owners and/or operators must immediately notify the Division.

After new tanks and/or piping are installed or existing tanks and/or piping are upgraded, owners and/or operators must report the applicable information to the Division's Fee and Notification Section within thirty (30) days. Such reports shall be made using a notification form. **Failure to report this information is a violation.**